

# Stark County Democrat.

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ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

## FAILURE OF BROKERS RECALLS BOND DEAL

**Canton's Securities Sold On Installment Plan When "Business Council" Was in Control—Lamprechts who went to Wall soon after Driving Good Bargain Repudiated Debt After Reorganizing.**

A dispatch from Cleveland states that further investigation of the affairs of Lamprecht Brothers & Co., the firm of brokers and bond buyers which was forced into bankruptcy a few days ago, shows the total indebtedness of the company to be about \$1,500,000. Of this \$1,500,000 is secured by collateral deposited in the various banks with which the concern did business.

Receiver Thomas H. Rushnell, in an interview in Cleveland last night, expressed the belief that the creditors concerned in the remaining \$400,000 would benefit materially from the value of this collateral in excess of the claims it secures and that this excess, together with the other property of the embarrassed firm will permit of the payment of a large percentage of the total unsecured claims against the company. The receiver, who has already closed out the branch offices of the company at Akron and Youngstown, said it will require two or three more months to close up the company's affairs and announce the final dividend.

The failure of Lamprecht Brothers & Co. recalls to many Cantonians the time in the early nineties when the city council—the so-called "Business Council," organized and controlled by Republicans for the first time after a long period of Democratic administration, sold the city's bonds on an installment plan, patterned after the business methods of modern furniture stores—a small sum down and a promise to pay the balance in the future, not at the convenience of the buyer, as in furniture people provide, but when the city needed the money for which the bonds were sold.

There was about \$60,000 worth of the bonds involved in the transaction recalled by the Lamprecht failure and the Cleveland brokerage firm of Lamprecht & Co. was the purchaser. It was not the same firm that went to the wall last week, but for the most part the same stockholders were concerned in both, although it is the understanding of Cantonians who were interested in making the settlement that the active head of the original company was not active in the reorganized company, but had retired in favor of either nephews or other relatives bearing his name.

The bonds, \$25,000 worth of which were for a market house site, the block on North Cleveland avenue since occupied by the Auditorium, sold at a fancy premium, and the Lamprecht company promised to produce the cash just as it was needed.

Instead of holding the securities until the money was paid in, the council and the city officials turned over to the brokers all of the bonds and accepted the company's check for the amount—this after a committee from council and other officials had been wined and dined in Cleveland and made to believe that the money was just as safe in the form of the company's bank check as it would have been in hard cash in the city's strong box.

Shortly before the city needed the money the firm of Lamprecht & Co. failed and in the final settlement paid only a small percentage to creditors. The city of Canton sought to regain its bonds but it developed that they had been sold to private individuals in all parts of the country immediately after delivery. Cancellation of the bonds was considered, but court precedent showed that this could not be done because it would inflict suffering upon innocent purchasers of bona fide securities.

The reorganized Lamprecht brokerage firm, although composed of practically the same individuals as the original, repudiated all claims against the latter, but out of the wreckage of the old firm the city did secure a block of stock in one of the independent oil companies of Cleveland, together with some other commercial paper of uncertain value.

The matter dragged along for years with intermittent efforts by the city to collect. Several suits were filed and at times threats to prosecute some of those concerned in the deal were made, but finally the city consented to a settlement in which it received only a few thousand dollars. Before this was accomplished high priced attorneys were several times employed to assist the city solicitor and one or more commissions were sent to Cleveland to appraise and attempt to dispose of the securities, but without success. It is doubtful if the total sum

finally received more than paid the costs of special counsel and other expenses.

In the meantime, duplicates of the original bonds had to be sold to meet the obligations incurred and the taxpayers of Canton but recently finished paying the double debt resulting from bad business practices by a "business council."

## VOTE

**Canvassed for Trustees  
Firemen's Pension  
Fund at**

### MEETING OF SAFERS

A short session of the members of the board of public safety was held Tuesday evening, with Messrs. Dunwoody, Hall, Fielding and Talbot in their chairs.

A communication was received from Mayor Turnbull asking the board to give him an itemized estimate of what amount of money it will take to operate the police and fire departments for one year, it being necessary to have this information before he can make up his annual budget. Clerk Paulus will furnish the desired information.

Esklin A. Kuhn, residing at 705 Prospect avenue, made application for a position in the police department, while another application came from Frank Walters, 211 West Fifth street, who desires to be placed on the list of regular firemen. Both applications were placed on file.

Member Hall reported that the doors on No. 5 engine house, Duober avenue, needed some repairs and Chief Mesnar was instructed to have the work done without further delay.

Fire Chief Mesnar reported that he had four or five horses in his department that should be sold and this will be done as soon as permission is granted by the council. These horses are still in good condition for other uses, but are no longer fitted for service in the fire department.

The votes cast by the members of the fire department for trustees of the firemen's pension fund were counted at this meeting of the board, as the law requires. Five firemen are elected annually and those named together with the members of the safety board constitute the board of trustees. The election resulted as follows: William Betts, Robert Little, A. P. Hill, John Hohn and Robert Studer. These gentlemen will be present at the next meeting of the board when an organization will be effected.

The board will likely have a special session the latter part of the present week to take up some matters pertaining to the new building.

The following is a list of the claims allowed at the meeting of the board: C. Zimmer, extra officer, \$4; E. C. Burns, extra officer, \$12; W. D. Kirkland, extra officer, \$12; H. A. Smith, horse shoeing, \$4; Ley & Loos, oilment, 50c; Canton City Flouring Mills, oats, \$6; J. A. Schellhase, new tire on patrol, \$10; William McDougall, coal, \$3.10; Moses & Reensnyder, office chair, \$9; Canton Electric Co., light patrol house, \$9.80; M. W. Miller, hardware supplies, \$1.80; Smith Grain Co., oats and feed, \$6.40; Hazen & Vogler, medicine, \$3.20; Stark County Telephone Co., telephoning, \$1.65; Central Union Telephone Co., telephoning, \$1.75; Miller-Blanchard Co., ambulance service, \$9; Louis Dumont, supplies, 47c; Joseph Reigler, sustenance, \$13.80; Amer-La-France Co., acid, \$14; Stark Lumber Co., sawdust, \$4.60; F. E. Smith, hay, \$32.76; Canton Electric Co., light for engine houses, \$25.60; Diebold Safe & Lock Co., sawdust, 25c; E. G. Whitmer, horse shoeing, \$1.60; Dr. Derr, horse outfit, \$1.50; O. W. Schaefer, horse shoeing, \$3.40; Canton Feed Co., feed for fire department, \$49.56; Hiram Shau, feed for fire department, \$132.98; Canton Gas Light & Coke Co., light for house houses, \$21.95; Jacob Gottshall, house watch, \$1.50; Walter Joliff, sub. fireman, \$4.00; C. McDowell, sub. fireman, \$25; R. Stehr, sub. fireman, \$25; John Leininger, salary, \$37.50; Dan Reed, salary, \$35; 33 policemen, salary, \$1186.09; 53 firemen, salary, \$1864.84.

Akron—Joseph Peters, C. A. & C. employe, struck by train; cannot live.

## CARTRIDGE IN HIS PIPE EXPLODES WITH BANG

Springfield, O., Feb. 16.—An explosion from the bowl of his pipe killed Ashby Allender's eyes with ashes and tore the pipe to fragments last night. Allender afterward found a 22-caliber cartridge in the pipe and a bullet hole in the ceiling.

Allender has no idea how the cartridge came to be in the tobacco. He first thought that the cartridge had been introduced with malicious intent, but now he believes it was in some way accidentally dropped into the pipe without his notice. The tobacco was in a new package, bought the night before.

## RASOR'S FATE

**May Rest With Aged Men  
Who Have no  
Daughters**

### JUSTICES REJECTED

Medina, O., Feb. 16.—It is evident that the fate of Guy Rasor, charged with murdering his sweetheart Ora Lee, will rest in the hands of elderly men.

Farmers and retired merchants are given the preference, and at least one man was dismissed because he had a daughter at home. The state's attorneys declared it was the purpose of the defense to bar from the jury any man who had a young daughter.

H. B. Foster, ex-justice of the peace, and A. J. Bidle, farmer, were the fourth and fifth jurors peremptorily challenged and both were objected to by the defense. Rasor's attorneys now have challenged two ex-justices. Bidle did not seem to understand the duties of a juror when originally questioned.

The work of filling the jury may take two or three days yet.

That the evidence upon which attorneys will seek to convict Guy Rasor with the shooting of Ora Lee will be purely circumstantial is clearly indicated in the questions put to prospective jurors by the prosecution.

"Knowing the offense to be punishable by death could you, though no evidence had been offered by any one who had witnessed the commission of the crime, return a verdict of guilty?" is the question asked by Prosecutor McClure to the veniremen examined. Many answered in the negative and are excused.

When a wave of sympathy for the aged grandparents of Ora Lee spread over the county, Edgar Lee, the slain girl's father, was forgotten for a while. Some, who remembered, blamed him for not looking out for his daughter better.

But Wadsworth has changed its opinion of him since the young farmer has begun to appear at the trial here in Medina, trudging through miles of snow from his home in Wadsworth.

The father's face bears a sad look. Although Ora always made her home with her grandparents across the road from the son's home, the father feels keenly the sorrow that has stricken the family, more keenly, probably, because it might have lain in his power to prevent the tragedy.

"I knew Guy all his life and his people before him," said Lee today. "I never really objected to his calling on my daughter, but I did tell Ora that it was my wish she should never marry him. The choice was hers to make, however, and she made it without hesitation. That was the first time she ever crossed me—I think the only time," said the father, his grief at the recollection showing in his voice.

"Father couldn't come today," continued Lee. "Yes he has aged lately, but that or the weather would not stop him. Mother is very bad and he would not leave her alone."

## PRELIMINARY PLANS STARK CENTENNIAL

**To be Submitted Before Directors of the Board of  
Trade the Latter Part of the Week.**

At a meeting of the directors of the Stark Board of Trade, the latter part of the week, the committee consisting of Hubert C. Pontius, C. A. Dougherty and J. E. Monnett, will submit some of the preliminary arrangements for the Stark county centennial, to be held here next summer. The board will probably then take active and definite steps towards promoting the proposition.

The committee will recommend that the board request of the council the right to use McKinley avenue between Fifth street and the Pennsylvania railroad, entirely for the centennial. This would make it possible to utilize some of the adjoining plots of land, and avoid any overcrowding that might otherwise result. Along this thoroughfare it is proposed to erect

"Poor mother," and Ed Lee's voice grew unsteady. "Ora was her one great comfort. No one can console her."

Again in the courtroom and seated less than three feet from Lee there was no trace of the feeling so recently confessed.

Marks of the first day's strain which were stamped on the faces of the tired judge, attorneys and spectators alike, were entirely lacking in the man whose life hangs in the balance.

As time passed he forgot the mother and two sisters who sat behind him and with whom he had whiffed away the early hours in pleasant chat; forgot the man sitting at his elbow who charges he robbed him of a daughter; forgot even himself, hanging forward in his chair he eagerly listened to every word the veniremen spoke and breathed a sigh of relief as those of them who were accepted mounted the box.

## FIRST PURE FOOD CASE UNDER FEDERAL LAW

Columbus, Feb. 16.—The first case brought by State Dairy and Food Commissioner Dunlap under the federal law under authority conferred upon him by the pure food department of the United States department of agriculture, was before him for hearing Tuesday morning. It is against the firm of Price & Lucas Cider and Vinegar company of Pittsburg, which is charged with selling artificial for pure cider vinegar. The company was notified to appear and show cause why the department should not prosecute it in the federal court for violating the national pure food law. V. D. Price, the president, and William G. Hume, the manager, appeared. Special Counsel Ora E. Harrison, of the attorney general's office represented the department. Under the law, the hearings must be held in private. A stenographic report of the testimony was taken and after a careful examination of it the commissioner will determine what course to pursue.

## MONUMENT DECORATED WITH GLISTENING ICE

A veneer of glistening ice, formed by the recent precipitation of sleet and rain, decorates the exterior of the McKinley monument and its surroundings. The branches of the trees have been woven into fantastic shapes under the influence of the frozen substance. The sight is an extremely rare and beautiful one, and many citizens are availing themselves of the opportunity to witness this unusual spectacle of winter grandeur. Excellent sleighing and skating is said to exist upon the hills in the vicinity of the monument.

**New Ship Subsidy Bill.**  
Washington, Feb. 16.—Plan to build up the American merchant marine by means of a subsidy or bounty payable by congress at any time and involving subsidies of \$9,000,000 a year provided in a bill introduced today by Representative Greene, of Mass., chairman of the house committee on merchant marine and fisheries. Bill also provides that most sailors be Americans and for the building of new ships under American register.

**Social War Started.**  
New Orleans, Feb. 16.—A social war started here over the visit of Taft, wife and party were entertained by the Elvies, of Oberon, a secret social order, at the French opera house at a ball. Invitations were refused Governor Sanders and Mayor Berhan and friends. Later angry because the executive of the state and city were alighted.

**New York Fire Loss.**  
New York, Feb. 16.—Fire Marshal Seery in his report for 1908 issued today says there were 8642 fires during the year in the city which caused a loss of \$6,197,893. Eleven hundred and twelve were caused by the careless use of matches and 483 caused by lighted cigars and cigarettes.

## BORROWED PLUMAGE CAUSES FAMILY ROW

**Picture Alleged to Have Been Loaned to Impress  
Visitors Destroyed after Old Neighbors Disagree—Star Chamber Session of Mayor's Court  
—Accused Woman Claims Portrait Was Presented to Her.**

In order to avoid the notoriety which such a case would naturally produce the hearing of Mrs. Harry Huber, of East North street, who was charged with destroying a valuable picture claimed to be the property of William Street, a weather strip agent, was held by Mayor Turnbull in his private office Tuesday night, Police Prosecutor Blake, Attorneys Rice and Sowers, Chief Smith and several newspaper reporters being present. The affidavit charged the woman with malicious destruction of property, the claim being set up by Street that his wife had given the picture to Mrs. Huber to ornament her home at a time when she was entertaining.

It was disclosed at the hearing that Mr. and Mrs. Street had occupied a portion of the Huber home a year or so ago and the two families were the best of friends, but recently there was a disagreement and the friendly relations ceased.

Street testified that the pictures had been left at the Huber house about three months ago and that when he sent an A. D. T. messenger to the house with a note requesting the return of his picture last Friday Mrs. Huber refused to surrender it. He sent the messenger to the house twice and the lad reported that Mrs. Huber said that if he, Street, wanted the picture he should call at her home in person. He did not go, but called another A. D. T. boy. This lad brought back a note and a package. The package contained the remains of what had once been a picture of Street but it was torn to shreds. Street in his testimony as well as in his affidavit, accuses Mrs. Huber of maliciously tearing it up before giving it to the messenger.

## STARK BANKS BID FOR STATE CASH

Columbus, Feb. 16.—The new competitive bidding plan or loaning out the state funds, devised by State Treasurer D. S. Creamer, will net an additional \$50,000 annually to the earnings of these funds. It is estimated that the average gain in the rate of interest will be one per cent. The state has been getting a uniform rate of 2.50 per cent on inactive accounts, and this will be raised to not less than 3.10 per cent. On the active deposits, subject to a daily checking account, the amount paid has been 1.50. This will also be increased in the neighborhood of one per cent.

The amounts offered for the use of the funds run from about 2 per cent to 4.10 per cent. Only 29 bids for inactive deposits offered less than the present rate of 2.50. Between 2.50 and 3 were 169. Thirty-one offered the lowest rate that will be considered for inactive deposits, 3.10, for a total of \$1,720,000. From 3.15 to 3.25, 23 banks want \$1,166,600. Seven, between 3.30 and 3.45, want \$495,000. Twenty-one will take \$70,000 at \$3.50, and from 3.50 to \$4.10 the requests are for \$896,000.

The transfer of funds will be started March 1. The state board of deposits will meet this week to take up the matter of the awarding of contracts.

At \$25 the City National of Canton bid for \$50,000; the First National of Massillon for \$100,000; the Union National of Massillon for \$150,000. At \$3.45 the State bank of Massillon, \$10,000; at \$3.50 Merchants' National bank of Massillon, \$10,000.

**Elopers Finally Got Married.**  
Baltimore, Feb. 16.—After having eloped three times and each time arrested, Susan Thacker of West Point, Virginia, and James Taylor, of Norfolk, reached Baltimore today and were married. While the police watched one boat, the crew helped the couple over the other side into a row boat and escaped, got license and were married.

**Annual Meeting.**  
The stockholders of the Canton Home Furnishing company held their annual meeting Monday afternoon, at which the officers of the past year were re-elected as follows: J. L. Arnold, president and manager; Frank A. McCrea, vice president and treasurer; A. P. Daberk, secretary.

**Wireless Bill Passes House.**  
Washington, Feb. 16.—Bill requiring passenger carrying steamers sailing in excess of 200 miles with 50 or more passengers to be equipped with wireless apparatus in charge of operator passed the house today.

ing it up before giving it to the messenger.

The A. D. T. boys were called as witnesses and told of their trips to the Huber home and the last one of carrying back the fragments of the picture of Street and a note, which read as follows:

"This is what a man of good sense ought to do with you, and if you give me any more annoyance I will give you what you are looking for."

Street had saved copies of the letter he sent to Mrs. Huber, but copies were not admitted at the hearing. He said that his photograph was valued at \$5. He denied that he had given the picture to the Hubers.

Harry Huber was called as a witness and swore that Street had presented the picture to his wife. He said that Mrs. Street's picture had also been at their house when they talked of exchanging pictures, but that Mrs. Street refused to give her picture to them, because the one at home then had been taken for a "beauty show contest."

Mrs. Huber admitted that she had torn up the picture, but contended that it was her own property. When she asked Mrs. Street for the pictures of herself and Mr. Street, Mrs. Street said that "Billy wanted to present this picture to her himself." She says that he did so, making a low bow and some very pretty remarks.

The arguments of the attorneys were brief, Attorney Blake contending that the right of this picture was still vested in Street, while Attorney Rice claimed that the assertions of Street were perfectly silly. Mayor Turnbull dismissed Mrs. Huber and the remnants of the portrait were wrapped in a newspaper and carried away.

## SENSATIONAL EVIDENCE AT TRIAL OF BRIBER

Pittsburg, Feb. 16.—William Ramsey former president of the German National bank, placed on trial charged with having bribed members of the Pittsburgh council. Rumor that attempts would be made to bribe jurors caused Judge Frazier to order that the jury be kept under lock and key, the same as a murder jury. Councilman John Klein, one of seven indicted for grafting, is missing. Said his attorneys have locked him in a room so they can get him when wanted. A. A. Vilsack, ex-cashier of the bank, turned state's evidence on stand against former president. Vilsack testified the Ramseys ordered him to give Klein \$1500 so Klein could buy aldermen who would vote the depositaries money to the German bank. Vilsack's testimony caused a tremendous sensation and astounded the defense. City Clerk Martin and Clerk of Common Councils Blake, who refused to appear in court arrested on bench warrants and brought in with records.

## ROBBER GANG CAPTURED IN REVOLVER BATTLE

Cleveland, O., Feb. 16.—In a revolver battle in Lakewood tonight, police captured two men and a woman, believed to be members of the robber gang which has terrorized the village. The police lay in ambush beside a house believed to be the gang's rendezvous. They opened fire when the three refused to halt. Bullets flew for several minutes, then the men surrendered. The girl entered a house, but was surrounded by inmates. Names are withheld.

**Saw Cooper With Revolver.**  
Nashville, Feb. 16.—Mrs. Charles H. Eastman, principal witness today in the trial of Colonel Duncan Cooper, his son Robin and John Sharpe, charged with murdering Senator Edward Carmack. Mrs. Eastman said she was talking to Carmack when a man behind her shot him. She turned round and saw Colonel Cooper with a revolver. Said young Cooper also held a pistol extended just as if he had fired. Said three shots were fired.

**Politician Votes, Then Suicides.**  
Philadelphia, Feb. 16.—Wm. Nicholas, a prominent politician, cast a vote for the Republican candidates in today's municipal election and went home and committed suicide with gas.

We have a powerful bird glass and opera glass combined in small case—Lemaire make—which means the best. Walter H. Deulie, Jeweler & Optician, opp. court house.

## MAGEE ELECTED

Pittsburg, Feb. 16.—William A. Magee, Republican, today elected mayor by plurality of 5000. Magee a protégé of George T. Oliver and enemy of H. C. Frick and Senator Knox.